

THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN: TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 16, 1882.

THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN.

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second-class matter.)

Alexander H. Stephens.

Representative Speaker of Georgia, on
Sunday sent a dispatch to ex-Representa-
tive Felton at Atlanta, saying:

The committee of independent democrats
who meet to-morrow will recommend Mr. Ste-
phens as the people's candidate for governor. I
know positively he will not reject such recom-
mendation, and that if selected he will be the gov-
ernor of all the people without regard to party.
He will be controlled by no ring.

The Washington correspondent (F. H. R.) of the Atlanta Constitution reports an interview with Mr. Stephens dated May 6, in which the answer seems to us far from being in accord with the questions.

The eminent Georgia was willing to serve as governor if the people of Georgia should so desire. He would not be disengaged of such an expression of confidence as would be a nomination by the Independents! A nomination by the Democratic party he would certainly regard as such an expression of popular confidence and the people's will as would induce him to allow himself to be a candidate, with the understanding that if elected he should, in the interest of all classes, disregard party organization. He declined the interview unless he could be reported verbatim. This assurance being given him, we deem it important that his very words should be reproduced. We find them in the Atlanta (Ga.) Constitution of May 7. Mr. Stephens said:

"In the first place, then, I want you distinctly to understand that I am not a candidate for governor, nor am I candidate even for nomination to that office. I think, however, that what is being now said in the papers of Georgia on that subject gives out a remark of mine that you reported some time ago, that if the people of Georgia really wished me to serve as governor, as numerous letters received by me indicate, I know no reason at that time, if my health permits, not to consent to do so; and I have, therefore, repeatedly declared, to retire from public life at the expiration of my present Congressional term. This I now repeat. By this language I do not mean to announce myself as a candidate, or even as aspirant for the governorship, but to express simple willingness to serve as governor if the people of Georgia should call upon me to labor and manhood in the person of their humblest representatives." [Applause.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., MAY 16, 1882.

Population of the National Capital....180,000.

Amusements To-Night.

CLEARING HALL—Concert,
THEATRE COMIQUE—Variety,
DRYDEN'S GARDEN—Entertainment,
CINCHONICHAUD CHURCH—Entertainment,
ODD-FELLOWS' HALL—Museum of Wonders.

Pure air and plenty of water are prime necessities of which the inhabitants of the Capital ought not to be deprived.

PROGRESSIVE Mexico will soon have three lines of fine ocean steamships in operation. We can do without steamships since we have the largest national park on the globe, besides having a joint interest with Canada in the most stupendous cataract.

There is first-rate dredging machinery at the Navy-Yard, where it has lain idle year after year, while the channel of the East Branch has been slowly filling up for want of a trifling appropriation available for dredging it out. Meantime, millions have been expended in efforts to create rivers on various eligible sites where nothing but water was lacking.

The Vicksburg Herald of a recent date, after stating some of the serious omissions by the Legislature of Mississippi, then lately adjourned, has the following savage thrust at the election machinery of the State. It contains a fearful truth, which should be pondered by those who run the machine:

"The returning Board is still in force, indeed, we think it has been granted additional powers. The party that rules itself here for a full vote, a free ballot, and a fair count in Mississippi is prepared to do anything with the ballot it is pleased to do, in the coming years when held, free white men differ on public questions, the returning Board of Mississippi will bring forth its legitimate fruits, fraud, hypocrisy, perjury, and blood enough to wipe it out forever."

General Garfield and Christopher Columbus.

A bill was introduced in the last Congress by Mr. Page, of California, making the day of the discovery of the western hemisphere by Christopher Columbus a national holiday. The following letter to a countryman of the great navigator, from General Garfield, antedated the introduction of the bill, and will be read with interest:

MONTOR, OHIO, October 5, 1860.

GATTANO BACCIOLI, Esq., No. 524 Filbert street, San Francisco, Cal.

DEAR Sir:—Your letter of the 25th of August was received yesterday, and I have read with interest your suggestions in reference to making the 12th of October a national holiday in honor of Christopher Columbus.

The suggestion is worthy of the attention of the Government. Certainly the discovery of America is the most important event in modern history. Thanking you for the kindness of your letter, I am very truly yours,

J. A. GARFIELD.

Humane Legislation.

It is common to sneer at public measures which bring no money into the Treasury and which take none out for private benefit, and to dismiss them with the stale remark that ours is not a paternal government. But the sixty-five lives saved from destruction last Saturday morning at the Beach (near Elberon, N. J.) by the life-saving crews of the United States life-saving station near there are a testimony that humane legislation has been enacted by Congress, despite the Gradrinians who despise everything but "facts and figures," and the Malibians who welcome all ways of removing the "surplus population." Those who have seen a drill at a life-saving station have seen the projectile leave the cannon's mouth, carrying with it the small rope which, once thrown from shore across the stranded ship, enables those on board to draw to them the larger rope, on which, safe above the angry surf, a chair is suspended. In this chair, hanging to a wheel which travels on the rope, the shipwrecked come to shore one by one. The mothers who saw their little ones safely brought to shore from the Pliny, and all others who were there, and all who read of them, will rejoice that there are times when ours is a paternal government, reaching out of their strong arms to save men, women, and children from watery graves.

In this connection THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN improves the occasion to say a word in praise of the gentleman to whose benevolent instincts, persuasive eloquence, and untiring persistence the Life-Saving Service is due. Hon. S. S. Cox, of New York, is the man. His zeal for the welfare of "those who go down to the sea in ships" has been manifested in other measures besides this; viz., the act to protect health, morals, and life on shipboard, and the act for the better inspection of sea-going vessels. He is now endeavoring to secure legislation for the protection of immigrants when they first land on our shores.

The accession of Colonel Edward P. Brooks to the staff of the Peoria (Ill.) Transcript as its managing editor is readily observed by the readers of that spicy and able sheet. The general ex-soldier to Cork was not satisfied with the improvement made in the news columns of the paper, but has effected a thorough change in its make-up and dress, which makes it as handsome in appearance as its columnists are newswy, witty, and brilliant. The make-up has been changed from four to eight pages.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

"TOMBOONE is indignant," says a Western dispatch. In this part of the country tombstones are quiet and "graveyard yawns."

We may credit an esteemed contemporary, one of the delegates to the colored M. E. Conference, with "clad in a pair of squeaking boots." Rather an airy costume for a cool day.

It is of a piece with the decision in the Chalmer case" remarks the National Democratic organ in reference to the action of the House Elections Committee in the case of Lowe against Wheeler. Yes, it is just such a "piece." The case are as near alike as two pieces of chalk.

These tremendous scars that is generally proposed to remove from one frontier station to another is merely due to the fact that important business interests are affected by such transfers. There is less fear of losing scalps than of losing good customers.

The autograph of a Republican Congressman attached to a recommendation of a blabent Bourbon for office isn't a spectacle that the Republican Congressman's political friends can contemplate with serene satisfaction. And it isn't the sort of thing that will carry along with him to show to his constituents this summer. But it is liable to be shown in more than one district before the date of the nominating convention.

A **Fabulously Large Land Claim.**

James A. Reed, formerly a reporter in Philadelphia, in his article on the "Great Land Controversy," under the heading of "Land Titles," in the Atlantic Monthly, says:

"The influence of association affords the best guarantee for the safety of property."

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Good for Babies.

When I have a baby at breast feeding is an important consideration. The nervous Park's ginger babies. It prevents bowel complaints, and is better than any stimulant to give strength and appetite.—A Newark Doctor.

WEST POINT.

The Annual Examination and Graduating Exercises.

A letter from West Point gives the following of the annual exercises at the Military Academy:

The situation here at present as regards examinations may be described as one of expectancy in connection with the approaching annual examination of the several classes, preparatory to graduation, commencing on June 1, and preliminary to that a general review of studies by all the classes is now in progress. Orders bearing upon the subject of the examination and other studies are being prepared and will soon be issued.

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Real communication must be written on one side of the paper, and the other side for the printer to print on both sides.

There is no time to subscribe.

Now is the time to subscribe.

To the Editor of THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN:

Will you kindly let me know the cost of

the weekly issue of THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN?

Very truly yours,

John C. H. Morris.

Editor of THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN.

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